

## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health is charged with protecting the public health and safety of the residents of Randolph. Some important Board of Health functions include: Food Inspections, Swimming Pools, Recreational Camps, Housing, Trash, Hazardous Waste, Communicable Disease Control and Public Health Nuisance Control.

### SOLID WASTE & RECYCLING PROGRAM

TRASH: The Town disposed of 8,873 tons of solid waste in the last year, down from 9,073 tons. The single stream program continues to assist in lowering overall tonnage.

RECYCLING: The Town generated 2,080 tons of recycling for the last year. Not only has the new single stream program raised our participation in recycling, but has also helped clean up the streets by providing a more contained space for recyclables. The Town hopes to increase the recycling rate in the upcoming years through public education and making it easier for residents to recycle.

YARD WASTE/DPW YARD: The Yard Waste/DPW Yard was open every other week from April to November. In addition to yard waste, CRT's, Electronics, Tires and Propane tanks were collected.

EVENTS: Household Hazardous Waste Day & Clean Up Day were the two events that were run through the Solid Waste & Recycling Program. Both were very successful and attained their goals. Hazardous Waste Day was attended by more than 500 residents of Randolph and Avon, with the majority being from Randolph. There were more than 15 volunteers that gave their time to help at Household Hazardous Waste Day as well. Thank you to all who attended volunteered and participated at the event. Town-wide Clean Up Day was attended by more than 100 volunteers that took a Saturday, in April and November to help make Randolph a cleaner and safer community for its residents. Thank you to all who sponsored, participated and volunteered to make the annual Clean Up Day a success.

GRANT: The Solid Waste & Recycling Program received a Small Scale Grant from Massachusetts DEP in the amount of \$1,500.00, which will be used to purchase a fence down at the DPW yard for the Solid Waste and Recycling Program.

OTHER: Other programs and services residents can take advantage of are: Mercury Product Take Back, Thermostat Trade Off, Senior Discount, etc.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMPLAINTS SOFTWARE: Approximately 1,714 complaints were received for various health nuisances, code issues, trash and recycling problems which were investigated and resolved during the year. These complaints are recorded and tracked on the innovative SeeClickFix platform. The Town has also instituted a new permitting system called ViewPermit which allows for streamlined online permitting and payment. The system also allows for complaint tracking and cloud based document management.

SWIMMING POOLS: 18 permits, for public, semi-public and private pools were issued.

FOOD/LTD. FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS: 95 permits were issued to restaurants and other type of operations serving food and/or drink for consumption on the premises. Inspections of all establishments have been carried out required by State Code and will continue to be monitored.

FROZEN DESSERT ESTABLISHMENTS: 7 permits were issued. Inspections occur on a regular basis.

MOBILE FOOD & TEMPORARY FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS: 4 permits were issued and are inspected on a regular basis.

RETAIL & LIMITED RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS: 64 permits were issued to retail & limited retail food establishments. All are being inspected on a regular basis.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS: 9 permits were issued to operate a catering establishment, which are inspected at regular intervals.

WHOLESALE/MANUFACTURING FACILITIES: 2 permits were issued to Wholesale/Manufacturing facilities, which are inspected on a yearly basis.

MILK PERMITS: 92 permits were issued to establishments who serve and sell milk to the public.

HEALTH CLUB: 1 Permit was issued to Health Clubs with an annual inspection conducted.

COLLECTION & DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE/GREASE: 6 permits were issued.

REMOVAL, TRANSPORT, DISPOSE OF GARBAGE/OFFAL: 18 permits were issued.

TOBACCO PERMITS: 47 permits were issued for the sale of tobacco products.

SUNTANNING FACILITIES: 2 permits were issued and facilities inspected.

VAPOR BATHS: 1 license was issued.

PERSONNEL: After 28 years dedicated Clerk Priscilla MacDougall retired we all wish her well. Carol Cronin a longtime Town employee has taken the position and we look forward her contributions in the future. We would like to thank the five member Board for their service and the Town Manager David Murphy for his leadership and direction over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,  
John P. McVeigh, MBA, CHO, R.S. Commissioner  
Mark Kittredge, Chairman  
Thomas J. Fisher, Vice Chairman  
Dr. David Kaplan, CHO RS Member  
Esther Muhammad, RN, Member  
Nelly Brown Janga, BS Member

## WIC NUTRITION PROGRAM

The WIC program continues to offer the Town of Randolph residents its services and nutrition programs for women, infants and children. This program served a total of 1,057 participants. There were thirteen farmers markets in the area that participants could access locally grown food.

## ***PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING***

### GENERAL INFORMATION

The Public Health Nursing section of the Board of Health (BOH) promotes health and wellbeing among the residents. The nurse is the liaison to the Regional Opioid Overdose Reduction Coalition which serves Quincy, Braintree, Weymouth and Randolph. The Randolph coalition works to address substance abuse issues and is working regionally to reduce the number of opioid overdoses. The BOH Public Health Nurse works with local universities and colleges providing nursing and public health intern preceptorships.

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

All reportable communicable diseases are investigated by the Public Health Nurse. Confidential reports are completed and kept at the Randolph Board of Health as well as submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Infectious disease surveillance is done electronically. The following communicable diseases were reported. There were a total of 277 cases reported with 167 confirmed.

	Reported	Confirmed
Amebiasis	1	0
Arbovirus	1	0
Campylobacteriosis	3	3
Giardiasis	2	2
Group A Streptococcus	5	0
Hepatitis A	2	1
Hepatitis B	33	1
Hepatitis C	44	20
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	2	1
Influenza	78	78
Legionellosis	2	2
Lyme	24	3
Meningitis (unknown type)	1	1
Mumps	1	0
Salmonella	5	5
Shigellosis	2	2
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1	1
TB-Active	4	1
TB-LTBI	58	44
Varicella	2	0
Vibrio sp.	1	1
Viral Hemorrhagic Fevers	9	0

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING AND CLINICAL PROGRAMS

### **IMMUNIZATIONS AND BIOLOGICAL WASTE PROGRAM**

Selected vaccines are provided free of charge to the Randolph BOH from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). This year, 147 children were vaccinated with one or more childhood vaccines and then referred to a primary care provider for follow-up. Additionally, flu vaccine was administered in the schools as part of our NO Ouch Zone nasal flu vaccine campaign.

### **INFLUENZA IMMUNIZATION**

The BOH began administering flu vaccine in August for the 2015-2016 season. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health supplied flu vaccine for children up to 18 years of age and for adults who were uninsured or underinsured. Vaccine was purchased by the town to vaccinate those with insurance; those who were homebound or unable to come to clinics. There were 887 flu vaccines administered during 2015.

### **KEEP-WELL CLINICS**

Keep-Well Clinics are blood pressure screenings for Randolph residents who are typically 65 and older. There were 36 blood pressure clinics held in Randolph last year. There were over 500 people who had a blood pressure screening at a clinic or in the office.

### **TUBERCULOSIS TESTING/CASES**

Individuals of various ages had TB testing at the BOH. The test must be evaluated 48-72 hours after being done. There were four new cases of suspect or confirmed active tuberculosis, of which three were revoked. Additionally, there were 44 cases of TB infection (not contagious).

### **OFFICE AND HOME VISITS**

Randolph residents come to the BOH for a variety of reasons including allergy injections, Vitamin B12 injections, injectable medication administration, blood pressure monitoring, or TB skin testing. This year over 500 people obtained nursing services from the BOH. This number also includes individuals requiring immunizations. There were 59 home visits made this past year, for people who do not qualify for Visiting Nurse services but are homebound or have had active tuberculosis.

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE**

The BOH Public Health Nurse led the community in preparing for public health emergencies. Plans for reaching the entire community with emergency public health messages were reviewed in meetings throughout the year. In March, a full scale training exercise was conducted to test the emergency plans and operations for opening an emergency dispensing site. We continue to use funds awarded in 2014 by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to address current planning efforts, including review of plans and provision of training to responding agencies during large scale emergencies.

### **TRI TOWN COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER INITIATIVE**

In May, 2015, two community health workers (CHW) were hired part time as part of a small grant from the Community Health Alliance 20 (CHNA) to provide outreach and health education to the Haitian and Vietnamese populations of Randolph, Milton and Braintree. Since May, the CHW's helped over 300 residents of Randolph to access health care, insurance, housing, and assisted the BOH with translation related to mandated services. The Path to Health Vietnamese translated website was developed and has had over 1200 hits since June. A weekly "Healthy Living" radio show was conducted in Haitian Creole through the summer months addressing health topics.